

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL  
May 26, 2015

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:40 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2015 special meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, asked the Council to open up the Charter and allow the budget to immediately proceed to a binding referendum.

Arthur Smith, Mulberry Road, stated that he attended the earlier meeting on Council-Staff relations and found it informational and hypocritical. Mr. Smith also commented on the Mayor's comments in the Chronicle which indicated that no financial questions remain and asked the Council where the funding for the fraud risk assessment and fraud tip line is to come from.

David Freudmann, Eastwood Road, expressed surprise that following the Department Head letter to the Town Manager regarding relations, Department Heads were not individually interviewed. Mr. Freudmann stated that he believes the issue is an attempt by the Democratic members and the Town Manager to stifle the minority and close off communications between staff and Republican members.

Brian Coleman, Centre Street, expressed concern for Storrs Center employees who work at low paying jobs and are having difficulty affording parking in the area. Mr. Coleman stated that the Department Head letter was an act of intimidation towards the minority party and that while there are many good staff members they should be able to take criticism.

Ray Haddad, Conantville Road, stated that he does not believe the letter sent by Department Heads, as there is no evidence. Mr. Haddad stated that if Council members don't want to do the job they should not and urged members to start listening to Mansfield residents.

Peter Millman, Dog Lane, congratulated the Council on the passage of an excellent budget and thanked those who support Storrs Center for the additional revenue it provides. Mr. Millman also thanked the Council members for their thoughtful and dedicated representation of the Town and for the endless hours and criticism they endure.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report the Town Manager offered the following comments:

- The Town Manager will be attending the ICMA Senior Executive Institute next week.
- The Memorial Day parade and ceremony was well attended. Mr. Hart thanked all those who participated, especially Sara-Ann Bourque who coordinated the event.

May 26, 2015

- Mr. Hart recently attended a work group, sponsored by MORE, to look at MERS and how best to take a comprehensive look at the program. Mr. Hart also addressed SB593 which would provide additional PTSD benefits for police officers and create a special a cancer presumption benefit for firefighters. He is concerned about possible additional costs.
- Staff is working on a RFQ for a facility study and will request Town Council authorization in June.
- The Employee Benefits Management Team is meeting regularly to discuss health insurance issues. Mr. Hart suggested that the Finance and Personnel Committees meet to discuss the options.
- Mr. Hart reported that there will be a special meeting of the WRTD on May 27, 2015 to discuss the current financial situation. He will report back to the Council.
- The shared services agreements between the Town and the Boards of Education are being reviewed and will be brought to the Council for consideration.
- In response to comments made during this evening's public comments, Mr. Hart stated that the Department Heads letter was not orchestrated by the majority party and management.
- The Town Manager will reissue his report and will include his oral report.

In response to Councilor questions the Town Manager agreed to research available information on the potential fiscal impact of SB593. Director of Public Works John Carrington reported that the contract for the pavement management study has been signed and should be completed by the fall and that the signage replacement bid has been awarded.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to move Item 4a., WPCA, Community Sewer Agreement between Storrs Center Phase III and Town of Mansfield and Application to Connect with Sewer, in advance of Old Business. The motion passed unanimously.

#### V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

In response to a remark made in the public comment section of the meeting, Mr. Kegler noted that the contact information for all Council members is available on the website and that he, and other members, respond to residents' questions and concerns.

Mayor Paterson and Councilor Kegler attended the Chamber of Commerce Awards where Mansfield's business of year award was presented to Eastbrook Animal Hospital. Also, Sargent Cournoyer was awarded the Chamber's Public Safety Award. Mayor Paterson noted that the downtown was given an award by Main Street. The presentation will be celebrated in June.

#### VI. OLD BUSINESS

##### 1. Storrs Center Update

The Town Manager provided updates on Live Music Wednesdays, the opening of the NZTC Commuter Club, the status of the sale of Main Street Homes, and recent additions to the Town Square. Mr. Hart also commented that the Parking Steering Committee has discussed parking options for employees who work in Storrs Center. Ms. Raymond requested information on how the Town can support a private club (NZTC Commuter Club) in a facility built with federal and state funds. Mr. Hart will provide additional information.

2. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

The Town Manager reported that work continues on the EIE for the Four Corners project and that the Four Corners Water and Sewer Advisory Committee will be meeting in early June. Mr. Hart has met with UConn representatives several times to discuss a comprehensive sewer agreement. A draft agreement is expected to be presented to the Council in late summer.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

3. Performance Measurements

Graduate Assistant Jayhon Ghassem-Zadeh presented information on performance measurements. Mr. Ghassen-Zadeh described the process of defining and implementing performance measurements and offered recommendations for their continued use in Mansfield. Mansfield is one of the first hundred towns who have embarked on this ICMA supported program.

4. Appointment to Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors

Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to appoint Councilor Antonia Moran to the Board of Directors of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, for a term commencing on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2018.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded that the Mansfield Town Council constitute itself as the Water Pollution Control Authority for the purpose of discussing Item 4a on the agenda.

Motion passed unanimously.

4a. WPCA, Community Sewer Agreement between Storrs Center Phase III and Town of Mansfield and Application to Connect with Sewer

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran seconded, effective May 26, 2015, to authorize Matthew W. Hart, Town Manager, to execute the attached Community Sewer System Operation and Maintenance Agreement between the Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of Mansfield and Storrs Center Phase III, LLC. Also, effective May 26, 2015, to authorize the Director of Public Works to issue a permit to Main Street Homes – Storrs, LLC to connect to the Town's sewer collection system.

In a friendly amendment the wording in the third paragraph of the agreement was changed to read, "...one, two or three bedroom units." Accepted by the maker and seconder of the motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded to return to their role as the Town Council.

Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

No comments offered.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

No comments offered

X. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORT

No comments offered.

XI. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

5. C. Naumec

6. State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management re: 2014 Equalized Net Grand List

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

No items offered.

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or litigation, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6)(B) and to include Town Manager Matt Hart, Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola and Town Attorney Kevin Deneen.  
Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Claims or Litigation, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (B)

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart, Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola and Town Attorney Kevin Deneen.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Council reconvened in regular session. Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

May 26, 2015